

## Exodus 28:31 - 29:9 - Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- Tonight we'll complete chapter 28 and, Lord willing, start in 29 which is about the High Priest and the consecration of the Priests.

31 "You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue.32 There shall be an opening for his head in the middle of it; it shall have a woven binding all around its opening, like the opening in a coat of mail, so that it does not tear.33 And upon its hem you shall make pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet, all around its hem, and bells of gold between them all around:34 a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe all around.35 And it shall be upon Aaron when he ministers, and its sound will be heard when he goes into the holy place before the LORD and when he comes out, that he may not die.

- The robe of the ephod was to be blue, the color of heaven and deity, and have pomegranates and bells all around the hem of this robe.
- The bells would be heard when he went in before the Lord, but if he had un-confessed sin, he would die, and no bells would sound.
- If that were the case, they would have to pull him out of the Most Holy place, as they themselves were unable to enter in.

- One commentator suggests that the pomegranates speak of the fruit of the Spirit, because no other fruit has more "blood-red seeds."
- The thought is that the bells would make a beautiful sound by themselves, but if they hit each other it would be as a clanging gong.
- This of course is the illustration we get from the Apostles first letter to the church in Corinth; without love, I will be as a clanging gong.

36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD.37 And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban.38 So it shall be on Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD. 39 "You shall skillfully weave the tunic of fine linen thread, you shall make the turban of fine linen, and you shall make the sash of woven work.

- Everything about this turban on Aaron's forehead both speaks of and points to the person of Jesus Christ in His Holiness as our Lord.
- This turban was to be woven of fine linen some believe was 540 threads per square inch, which again speaks of Christ's perfection.

40 "For Aaron's sons you shall make tunics, and you shall make sashes for them. And you shall make hats for them, for glory and beauty.41 So you shall put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests.42 And you shall make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness; they shall reach from the waist to the thighs.43 They shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they come into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place, that they do not incur iniquity and die. It shall be a statute forever to him and his descendants after him.

- Here Moses is given the instructions for the garments worn by the priest, and they are to be different than those of the High Priest.
- There are a couple of interesting details here that can give us insight into the "why" behind the "what," was acceptable before the Lord.

- The trousers were to be made of linen, and not wool, meaning that our service shouldn't be in the energy of the flesh where we sweat.
- Also, these linen trousers were to cover their nakedness, meaning that no flesh was exposed in the presence and service of the Lord.
- Another thought in addition to this, is that we are to have Christ's imputed righteous from the inside, underneath the exterior.

David Guzik, of Calvary Chapel Siegen Germany, draws an interesting contrast between Jesus' clothing when He accomplished His great priestly work and the garments of the High Priest.

1. Jesus wore no beautiful ephod - only a purple robe for mocking.
2. Jesus had no precious gems that were on His shoulders, only a cross that we deserved.
3. Jesus had no breastplate with "Israel on His heart", yet He died of a broken heart for Israel - and all of mankind.
4. As the High Priest, Jesus had a seamless robe that was not torn, but it was stripped away at the cross.
5. Jesus heard no delicate sound of bells proving that the High Priest was alive, only the pounding nails insuring our High Priest's death.
6. Jesus wore no fine linen turban, rather a painful crown of thorns.
7. Jesus had no headplate reading *HOLINESS TO THE Lord*, but a life and death showing nothing but holiness to the Lord!
8. Jesus had no linen trousers to hide His nakedness, rather He bore our sins on the cross in a naked shame.

- Now, we sort of round a corner in chapter 29, and see how the priests were to be consecrated for ministering to the Lord.
- Actually, in Leviticus chapter eight, we have the details of how this ceremony of consecration for the priests was performed.
- Before we jump into chapter 29, I want to give you a preview, and overview of sorts that connects the dots from them then to us now.

THEM THEN	Us Now
Exodus 29 – Aaron and his four sons are set apart as priests to serve God.	Revelation 1:6 – I’m set apart as a Priest by Jesus to serve Him forever.
Exodus 29:1-3 – They take their sacrifices and elements to be presented at the altar.	Hebrews 10:17-21 – My sacrifice is Jesus; He’s presented as sin for me, to alter me.
Exodus 29:4 – They were brought to the door, the only entrance.	John 10:9 – I’m brought to Jesus, who is the door, and the only entrance to heaven.
Exodus 29:4 – They were then washed with water.	John 3:5 Titus 3:5 – I’m washed by Jesus, and am born again and cleansed from sin.
Exodus 29:5-9 – They are then clothed by Moses.	Galatians 3:27 – I’m baptized into Jesus and clothed by Him in righteousness.
Exodus 29:10-12 – They’re publicly identified as sinners and lay hands on the bull.	Matthew 10:33-34 – I’m identified with Jesus and shouldn’t publicly deny Him before men.
Exodus 29:13 – All the fatty flesh is burned and consumed quickly.	1 Corinthians 3:13-15 – My works done in the flesh will be consumed by fire quickly.
Exodus 29:14 – They take the sacrifice outside the camp as a sin offering.	Hebrews 13:11-14 – I, like Jesus bare the shame, He’s our sin offering outside the city.
Exodus 29:15-25 – They take the sacrifice and anoint the ear, thumb and toe.	1 John 2:27 My faith/ear grows in Him, I serve/thumb him, and walk/big toe with Him.
Exodus 29:26-37 – They communed and supped with the Lord for seven days.	Revelation 3:20 – I can sup with Jesus and He with me, like the 7 <sup>th</sup> church, Laodicea.
Exodus 29:38-43-The offerings were day and night so God could be with them every day.	Revelation 21:4 - His day is coming; there’s no night or pain, we’re with Him forever.
Exodus 29:44-46-The Lord was able to dwell with them because of His love for them.	Revelation 21:3 – He created me to dwell with Him, but sin separated me from Him.

**29:1** "And this is what you shall do to them to hallow them for ministering to Me as priests: Take one young bull and two rams without blemish,<sup>2</sup> and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil (you shall make them of wheat flour).<sup>3</sup> You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, with the bull and the two rams.

- The Lord tells Moses both what he is to do, and what he is to bring in order to consecrate the priests, and this is quite a list of items.
- These were the necessary ingredients, if you will. Again, every aspect and detail points to and is a picture of the person of Jesus Christ.

**4** "And Aaron and his sons you shall bring to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and you shall wash them with water.

- First and foremost, the priests were to be brought to “The Door,” so they could be washed with water. This is how it is for us as well.
- First and foremost, as a priesthood of believers, we are brought to “The Lord,” washed by the water of His Word, and cleansed from sin.

**1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. NIV

**John 10:9** I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. NIV

**1 John 1:9-10** 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. NIV

**Ephesians 5:25-27** 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. NIV

- There’s one more thought here before we move on. It’s interesting that this cleansing took place at the door of the Tabernacle.
- In other words, it would have taken place within the view of those who were close in proximity to the entrance of the Tabernacle.
- How humbling would this be? You’re getting cleaned up publicly! Isn’t this how we come to Christ, it’s a humbling public profession?

5 Then you shall take the garments, put the tunic on Aaron, and the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the intricately woven band of the ephod.6 You shall put the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban.

- Notice that Aaron and his sons didn't put the garments on themselves rather they were clothed by having them put on them instead.
- Clearly this speaks of and points to how we are clothed in Christ's righteousness, and that we don't and can't clothe ourselves.

**Galatians 3:26-27** 26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. NIV

**Isaiah 64:6** But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; NKJV

7 And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him.8 Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them.9 And you shall gird them with sashes, Aaron and his sons, and put the hats on them. The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.

- Here the priests had to have the anointing on them. Again, this wasn't something they take upon themselves it had to come upon them.
- In other words, no Levite in their service to the Lord could be self-appointed and or self-anointed it could only come from the Lord.

**1 John 2:20** But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. NIV